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Senate

The Senate met at 10:01 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CHRISTOPHER S. BOND, a Senator from the State of Missouri.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord, You are good. You chase our enemies into dark places and restrain those who plot against Your providence. No matter how strong evil may seem, O Lord, it is doomed because of Your power.

Strengthen our Nation. Snap the chains that bind it to anything that is not noble and true. Inspire our Senators with Your invincible presence. Help them to look to the hill from whence comes celestial help. Remind them that they are never alone, for You have promised to be with us until time is transformed into eternity.

Help us to remember that neither life nor death, angels nor principalities, powers nor problems, heights nor depths, past nor future, demons nor darkness can separate us from Your wondrous love. Empower us to so live that generations to come will call us blessed. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable CHRISTOPHER S. BOND led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC., June 24, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of Rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CHRISTOPHER S. BOND, a Senator from the State of Missouri, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BOND thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning I again congratulate Chairman WARNER and Senator LEVIN for their efforts throughout the Defense authorization bill. We were able to pass that bill last night. Looking at my notes, we had approximately 175 amendments disposed of over the course of 16 days of consideration and 31 rollcall votes. A lot of hard work, a lot of good negotiation, brought a very good bill, as reflected in the ultimate vote. I do want to thank both the managers who got us through the bill. That was the authorization.

Now we have a Defense appropriations bill ahead of us. Chairman STEVENS is prepared to begin that legislation, and we expect to finish that bill prior to the recess. We will be consulting further with the Democratic leadership, and hopefully we will have that scheduled shortly.

Immediately this morning we will be proceeding to executive session for the consideration of the nomination of one of our former colleagues, Jack Danforth, to be U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that there be 1 hour of debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking member or designees, and that following that time, the Senate proceed to a vote on the nomination; provided further that following the vote, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MURKOWSKI). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. REID. Madam President, it is my understanding the two leaders do not expect a recorded vote on that.

Mr. FRIST. That is correct. The nomination will not require a rollcall vote, and at the conclusion of the debate, Senator Danforth will be confirmed by voice vote.

In addition, we have the remaining judicial nominations to dispose of. There are four that will be scheduled for votes with no debate necessary. There are two we will lock in for votes following 1 hour of debate, and I expect to ask that consent momentarily. There is also one further nomination that will require a longer debate period, and we are consulting with Members as to whether to schedule that debate and vote.

In addition to these nominations, there are a number of ambassadorships we hope to consider prior to adjourning, although we do not anticipate rollcall votes on these.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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There are other issues, including Burma sanctions, that we will likely address over the course of the day and tomorrow.

Finally, I would reiterate the need to finish the Defense appropriations measure. It is a priority for completion, and we need to work together to get that bill passed before the July 4 recess. We have spent 4 weeks on the Defense authorization where Senators have debated the issues and had ample opportunity to bring issues to the floor on defense and debate those. Thus, we should be able to proceed expeditiously on the Defense appropriations bill. It is now time to make sure we have the appropriate resources to support our troops, and we will continue to move forward.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time determined by the majority leader, with the concurrence of the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Executive Calendar No. 591, the nomination of Diane Sykes to be a U.S. Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit. I further ask unanimous consent that there be 60 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form and that following that debate, the Senate proceed to a vote on the confirmation of the nomination with no intervening action or debate; provided further that immediately following that vote, the Senate proceed to a vote on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 604, Peter Hall to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, again with no intervening action or debate. I finally ask consent that following these votes, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF JOHN C. DANFORTH TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

NOMINATION OF JOHN C. DANFORTH TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY, AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will go into executive session for consideration en bloc of the following nominations which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of John C. Danforth, of Missouri, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations; John C. Danforth of Missouri, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 1 hour of debate equally divided on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri is recognized.

Mr. BOND. Madam President, on behalf of the manager of the nomination, the Senator from Indiana, I yield myself 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BOND. Madam President, it is a privilege to rise today to commend to this body the confirmation of an individual whom I have had the honor of calling a colleague for over 30 years, and someone Members of this body have known for a long time. That is our good friend, former Senator John C. Danforth. There was something very delicious about the fact that the clerk noted he will become Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. That kind of sums it up.

Jack Danforth is an outstanding individual who will be having great responsibilities serving the United States as Ambassador at the United Nations.

Most of us who are familiar with Jack know of his many accomplishments and attributes. But there is one quality that always comes to mind when you ask people what do you know about or what do you think about when

you think of Jack Danforth? The people who have worked with him and have had an opportunity to watch him would say one word: integrity. This is a man of great integrity, as well as dedication and compassion, and even a dry sense of humor, when appropriate.

Senator Danforth was born in St. Louis County and graduated from St. Louis Country Day High School. He graduated from Princeton University in 1958, and then Yale University Law School and Divinity School in 1963. He was admitted to practice in New York in 1963, and that same year he was ordained as part of the clergy of the Episcopal Church. As we all recently saw, he participated in the services honoring our late, great President Ronald Reagan.

I have been to many services conducted by Rev. John C. Danforth. One that particularly affected this body was the memorial service for our late colleague, John Heinz, the Senator from Pennsylvania. I can tell you, when we went to Pittsburgh for those services, there were many very deeply hurt and troubled Senators. There is not much one would think could be said, but Jack Danforth was able to bring us together and give us hope and help lighten the burden of that loss.

In addition, obviously, to being a clergyman, Jack began his political career in 1969, serving as Attorney General of Missouri, using his legal background. I had the privilege to serve as an assistant attorney general under him and was grateful for the opportunity to be there, to learn the high standards he set and demanded not only for himself but for everybody who worked for him.

In the Senate, to which he was elected in 1976, he served as chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. He served on the Finance Committee and undertook many important responsibilities. He was a leader in the passage of the civil rights legislation that was enacted by the Congress. He went back to Missouri to resume the practice of law in St. Louis. Really, I think he went back to spend more time with his wonderful wife Sally, who is a tremendous friend to many of us who have a chance to know her, and his grandchildren, and also to watch Cardinal baseball.

Jack was called upon by President Bush to broker peace in the civil war in Sudan that had claimed some 2 million lives. He worked tirelessly and committed himself to improving the lives of others. He demonstrated once again to the U.S.—and this time to the world—his ability to understand and simplify complex political problems.

About 2 weeks ago, he called me at my home in Missouri and said: The President asked me to take on another assignment. I said: Jack, I hope it is not as dangerous an assignment as Sudan. He said: No, he asked me to be representative to the United Nations. I said: I think that may be less dangerous, I am not sure. We certainly hope it will be.